

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE A17NEW YORK TIMES
15 January 1986

House Transcriber Employee Indicted in Spy Case

By STEPHEN ENGELBERG

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14 — A Federal grand jury today indicted a messenger for a Washington-based company that transcribes official proceedings on two counts of spying for the Soviet Union.

The messenger, Randy Miles Jeffries, 26 years old, was charged with both delivering and attempting to deliver transcripts of closed hearings of the House of Representatives that were transcribed by the Acme Reporting Company. He was also charged with misuse of classified documents.

If convicted, he could face a possible sentence of life in prison on the first count and 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine on the second.

His attorney, G. Allen Dale, has said

his client is not guilty.

Mr. Jeffries has been held without bail since his arrest Dec. 20.

The case has raised questions about the security procedures at the House of Representatives, and the Select Committee on Intelligence has begun a study of whether changes are needed. The House has a staff of stenographers with security clearance but it occasionally contracts with outside companies to transcribe closed hearings.

Federal officials have said that the transcripts involved a hearing last year at which Pentagon officials discussed the military's methods for communicating with its nuclear forces in a war.

Michael Giglia, an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, testified

at a pretrial hearing that Acme discarded classified documents in the trash after tearing them by hand. Federal officials have said this would be violation of Federal rules, which require either shredding or turning such material to pulp.

Mr. Giglia testified that Mr. Jeffries was overheard making a telephone call in which he offered to sell documents to the Soviet military office here. An F.B.I. undercover agent telephoned Mr. Jeffries and said he was continuing the negotiations on behalf of Moscow, Mr. Giglia said.

According to Mr. Giglia, Mr. Jeffries told the undercover agent he had already given the Soviet Union sample pages of the documents and offered to sell a complete set for \$5,000. Mr. Jef-

fries said the documents were being held by a friend, who did not know what they were, the agent testified.

Mr. Jeffries was then arrested. Mr. Dale, the defense attorney, has argued that the arrest was made before a crime was committed.